

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The following paragraphs will replace all prior versions of them in the specification of the application.

- 1) On page 2, paragraph 5, line 4, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

Subsequently, the operator manually moves the cutter 206, which is provided between the pair of upper holding parts 205 and the pair of lower holding parts 203, in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the glass fiber portion so that the movement of the cutter 206 affords an initial scratch to the surface of the glass fiber portion. Subsequently, as a result of a pillow breaker 230 pressing the part including the initial scratch, the scratch is developed so as to break the glass fiber portion at the position of the initial scratch. Closing the cover 220 causes the unnecessary broken piece of the glass fiber portion to be inserted between the upper and lower guide rollers 207. In this state, the operator manually turns the upper and lower guide rollers 207 to convey the unnecessary piece, which has been inserted between the upper and lower guide rollers 207, to a storage part 209.

- 2) On page 4, paragraph 15, line 31, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

Another embodiment of the present invention is a fiber cleaver that comprises a holding member for holding the glass fiber portion of an optical ~~connector~~ fiber, a cutter for affording a scratch to the glass fiber portion held by the holding member, and a holder engaging part for holding a holder that holds an optical fiber at its part having a protective covering. The holder engaging part may have a first holder engaging member for pushing and holding the holder in a direction parallel to a movement direction of the cutter.

3) On page 8, paragraph 26, lines 3 and 4, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

An example of the mechanism in which the slider 39 is fastened or released by the slider engaging member 22 will be described in reference to Fig. 14. ~~Figure 14 is a schematic diagram~~ Figures 14(A) to 14(C) are schematic diagrams illustrating the operation of the slider: (A) Fig. 14(A) is a fastened condition, (B) Fig. 14(B) a released condition, and (C) Fig. 14(C) a state in which the slider has moved to a retracted position. The slider engaging member 22 is composed of a release button 43, a fastening part 44 and a stopper 22A. The fastening part 44 is pushed by a spring or the like, which is not illustrated in the figure, in a direction indicated by an arrow b, and the upper portion 44A of the fastening part 44 is fastened by the stopper 22A. The slider engaging member 22 is structured such that the release button 43 abuts the upper end of the fastening part 44 and that by pushing down the release button 43 in a downward direction, the fastening part 44 can be turned in a direction indicated by an arrow a.

4) On page 11, paragraph 39, line 26, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

As shown in Fig. 1, on the surface of the one end portion 28 of the lower casing main body 27, there is provided a holder engaging part 23 for fixing a holder which holds an optical fiber 37 by the protective covering portion. The holder engaging part 23 is a depressed part formed so as to hold a holder 63. The holder 63 has, for example, a structure in which a holder member 63B is detachably attached on a support plate 63A and in which a ~~guide~~ groove 63C for positioning the optical fiber 37 is provided in the upper part of the support plate 63A.

5) On page 14, paragraph 49, line 1, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

The following is an explanation about parts which constitute the upper casing 11. The other end

portion 32 of the upper casing 11 is connected with the lower casing 12 through the pivot 35 of the pivot member 13. In the upper casing 11, the arm 14 is arranged extending from the pivot 35 toward the ~~other~~ one end portion 32 31 of the upper casing 11. As shown in Fig. 9, the other end 14A of the arm 14 is fixed to the pivot 35 with screws 14C, for example, in a freely swayable manner using the pivot 35 as an axis. The height of the upper holding member 15, the breaker 16, and the like, which are provided in one end 14B of the arm 14, can minutely be adjusted by loosening the screws 14C and changing the angle of the arm 14.

- 6) On page 14, paragraph 52, line 21, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

~~Figure 10 is a sectional view~~ Figures 10(A)-10(C) are sectional views of a holding member for holding a glass fiber portion: Fig. 10(A) shows an opened condition; Fig. 10(B) a closed condition; and Fig. 10(C) a condition where glass fiber portions are gripped. As shown in Fig. 10(A), the upper holding part 71 has a rubber part 71A provided on the surface of its stand made of metal. The protuberances 71B which protrude below the surface level of the rubber part 71A are provided at both edges of the rubber part 71A. Such structure allows the protuberances 71B of the upper holding part 71 to abut both ends 33B of the lower holding part 33 as shown in Fig. 10(B) and thereby makes it possible to prevent the rubber part 71A of the upper holding part 71 and the rubber part 33A of the lower holding part 33 from abutting each other when the upper and lower casings 11 and 12 are closed while the cleaver 10 is not used. Therefore, the upper and lower rubber parts 71A and 33A are unlikely to be deteriorated by sticking each other closes while the upper and lower casings 11 and 12 are closed for a long time.

- 7) On page 15, paragraph 55, line 18, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

As shown in Fig. 5, the breaker 16 for breaking the glass fiber portion by developing a scratch

put thereon is provided at the center between the upper holding parts 71. The breaker 16 is fixed to the one end 14B of the arm 14 in a manner in which the breaker 16 is ~~a little higher than recessed from~~ the top surface of the upper holding part 71. When the upper and lower casings 11 and 12 are closed, the breaker 16 can press the part including the scratch of the glass fiber portion 37A so as to develop the scratch to break. The breaker 16 comprises a stand made of metal and a rubber part that is put on the surface thereof, for example. The scratch put with the cutter 20 can be developed by making the breaker 16 to press the part including the scratch so as to surely break the glass fiber portion 37A at the part which is scratched with the cutter 20, and thereby a good cleaved surface can be obtained.

8) On page 17, paragraph 62, lines 9-12, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

An example in which a glass fiber portion 37A is cleaved with a fiber cleaver 10 will be described in reference to Fig. 11 to Fig. 13. ~~Figure 11 is a schematic diagram which illustrates Figures 11(A) to 11(C) are schematic diagrams which illustrate~~ a first function of the fiber cleaver of the present invention. ~~Figure 12 is a schematic diagram which illustrates Figures 12(A) to 12(C) are schematic diagrams which illustrate~~ a second function of the fiber cleaver of the present invention. ~~Figure 13 is a schematic diagram which illustrates Figures 13(A) and 13(B) are schematic diagrams which illustrate~~ a third function of the fiber cleaver of the present invention. In Fig. 11(A), by pushing the press button 39A of the slider 39 in a direction indicated by an arrow, the cutter 20 moves from a retracting position P1 in a direction indicated by an arrow X₁ against the pressing force of an elastic member or spring 21. In Fig. 11(B), the cutter 20 is pushed to a fastening position P2 and the elastic member or spring 21 is compressed. In

this condition, a fastening part 44 which is shown in Fig. 14(A) fastens a fastening nail 39B of the slider 39. Thus, the cutter 20 is held at the fastening position P2.

9) On page 18, paragraph 68, lines 25 and 29, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

~~In Fig. 13(B), e~~ Canceling the closing power applied to the upper and lower casings 11 and 12 allows the upper casing 11 and the lower casing 12 to open by the pressing force of the casing spring 73 (see Fig. 5). The opening of the upper and lower casings 11 and 12 causes the gear 57 and the pivot 35 (shown in Fig. 5) to turn together, and the turn of the gear 57 is transferred to the gear of support axis 55A (see Fig. 13(B)) through the idle gear group (not illustrated in the figure).

10) On page 19, paragraph 73, line 32, please amend the following paragraph as follows:
A fiber cleaver according to a second embodiment of the present invention will be described hereinafter. Figure 16 is a side view of a fiber cleaver according to the second embodiment of the present invention, and Fig. 17 is a front plan view thereof. This fiber cleaver has one pair of an upper holding part 101 and a lower holding part 102 which are arranged so as to fix a glass fiber inserted between them. In addition, the fiber cleaver has a cutter 103, which is provided between the upper and lower holding parts 101 and 102, for putting a scratch to the glass fiber, and a block 104 for cutting the glass fiber by applying a force to the part that includes the scratch.

11) On page 21, paragraph 76, line 1, please amend the following paragraph as follows:
For cleaving the glass fiber portion of an optical fiber, first the holder is mounted in the holder

engaging part 108. Next, an operator manually closes a cover 112 provided in the upper part of the main unit body 107 so that the glass fiber portion is held by two upper holding parts 101 and 102 which are provided in the cover 112. Next, the cutter 103 provided between one pair of the holding part 101 and 102 is moved manually by an operator so as to cross the glass fiber portion at a right angle such that an initial scratch is afforded to a surface of the glass fiber portion. Subsequently, the pillow breaker 104 is caused to press the part including the initial scratch so that the initial scratch is developed to break the glass fiber portion at the point of the initial scratch.

12) On page 23, paragraph 83 "Brief description of the drawings," line 12, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[Fig. 17] A front plan view of the fiber cleaver according to the second embodiment of the present invention.